

# **Public Health Statute Modernization Turning Point National Excellence Collaborative**

## **TELECONFERENCE NOTES**

November 28, 2000

### **Participants:**

Steven Boedigheimer, Delaware Department of Health & Social Services [ASTHO rep.]  
Stephen Braunginn, Urban League of Greater Madison [Wisconsin rep.]  
Kathryn Broderick, Oregon Health Division [Oregon rep.]  
Deborah Erickson, Division of Public Health [Alaska rep.]  
Lawrence Gostin, Center for Law and the Public's Health at Johns Hopkins and  
Georgetown University Law Center [Consultant]  
Denise Hase, Northeast County Health Department [Colorado rep.]  
Joan Henneberry, National Governors' Association [NGA rep.]  
James Hodge, Center for Law and the Public's Health at Johns Hopkins and  
Georgetown University Law Center [Consultant]  
Cheryl Kilgore, Interior Neighborhood Health Corp. [Alaska rep.]  
Heather Horton, Centers for Disease Control & Prevention  
Douglas Nelson, Cherokee County Health Department [NACCHO rep.]  
Bud Nicola, Centers for Disease Control & RWJ TP National Program Office  
Mary Munter, Department of Health & Human Services [Nebraska rep.]  
Dave Palm, Department of Health & Human Services [Nebraska rep.]  
Jerry Street, Jefferson County Department of Health & Human Services [Oregon rep.]  
Vaughn Upshaw, National Association of Local Boards of Health [NALBOH rep.]  
Elizabeth Zelazek, Wisconsin Public Health Association [Wisconsin rep.]

### **Summary of Decisions and Action Items:**

- Deb will:
  - draft an agenda for the February 22-23, 2001 meeting in Atlanta based on this morning's discussion and distribute it to the Collaborative for review and comment.
  - e-mail the Collaborative with information on how to make hotel reservations for Atlanta.
  - e-mail instructions to those members of the Collaborative who require financial assistance with travel expenses.
  - e-mail the bulletin board instructions to everyone again.
  - create an information packet on our Collaborative for CDC senior staff and center directors for distribution prior to the February meeting.
  - add the Wisconsin Law Reform Lessons Learned paper from Liz to the minutes from our Scottsdale, AZ meeting, and repost these on the web.
  - add a link to the web site for Wisconsin's public health laws on the Collaborative's web site.
  - write a formal letter of invitation to the National Congress of American Indians requesting their participation on the Collaborative.

- follow-up with the National Association of Counties to formalize the appointment of Moses Carey as their representative on the Collaborative.
- post the revised Collaborative Charter and Workplan to the web site.
- Work with Bud to transfer the Collaborative's web site from the Alaska site to the Turning Point site.
- Bud will participate with Larry in the Wednesday, February 21 meetings with CDC senior staff and Center Directors.
- Larry and James will let us know as soon as the new Chair of the Board on Health Promotion and Disease Prevention, Institute of Medicine, is appointed. The Collaborative will invite that person to represent the IOM on the Collaborative.
- Tony and Larry will contact Richard Hoffman to see if he would be interested and available to participate as a technical advisor to the Collaborative on epidemiology. They will contact Gus Birkhead if Dr. Hoffman is not available.
- Tony and Larry will contact Tom Burke to see if he would be interested and available to participate as a technical advisor to the Collaborative on environmental health. They will contact Dick Jackson if Dr. Burke is not available.
- Tony will contact Jim Pearson to see if he would be interested and available to participate as a technical advisor to the Collaborative on public health laboratory science and administration.
- Collaborative members will identify potential technical advisors with expertise in Health Promotion/Health Education, and in Social Determinants of Health, and get names and contact information to Deb.
- The group agreed that it's not necessary to hold another teleconference prior to the February face-to-face meeting. Interim work will be conducted via e-mail and the bulletin board.

**The teleconference convened at 10:00 a.m. Alaska Standard Time.**

#### **Planning for February 22-23, 2001 Meeting in Atlanta**

Deb explained that the main purposes for this next face-to-face meeting are to 1) continue work on the Scope Statement for the Model Law, 2) continue the Collaborative's educational component on public health law, and 3) outreach to CDC senior staff and Center Directors to educate them about our project and engage them in dialogue about implications of the Model Law for their programs. She mentioned that she and Tony Moulton had recently discussed tentative plans for the meeting, and Larry mentioned that he had also recently talked with Tony.

Larry mentioned that he would be having individual meetings with CDC senior staff and Center Directors the day before our meeting (on Feb. 21). He will be explaining both his new Collaborating Center for Public Health Law, and the work of our Turning Point Statute Modernization Collaborative. He will also be soliciting feedback from them regarding their interests and needs. Bud volunteered to travel to Atlanta a day early to participate in these meetings with Larry to assist with explanations about Turning Point. Larry welcomed Bud's participation.

Larry explained that he would lead off the first day of our meeting (Thursday, Feb. 22) with a presentation on public health law (9:30 am – 11:00 am), followed by roundtable discussions (11:00 am – 12:00 noon). Tony intends to invite CDC staff, folks from Emory University, and the health department in Atlanta to participate with us in this seminar.

Deb suggested we could then go into a meeting of just the collaborative members for the afternoon to 1) have a report from James on the status of the assessment project, and 2) conduct other Collaborative business (e.g., status of the communication plan, status of filling membership vacancies, status of budget, etc.). James indicated that he would be prepared to give the status report on the assessment, and that an hour would be sufficient time for the report, questions and answers, and discussion with the Collaborative members. There was a request that we include time in the afternoon for a report from Larry and Bud on their Wednesday meetings with CDC senior staff and Center Directors. Larry and Bud indicated that they would be happy to report back to the group.

The plan for the next day (Friday, Feb. 23) is to invite CDC senior staff and Center Directors to participate in our Collaborative meeting. We would use part of this time to allow the CDC folks to observe our discussions on continued refinement of the Scope Statement, and then invite them to ask questions and provide input on the Scope. We also would like to provide a block of time for an interactive discussion with CDC on the implications of our model law for their programs. The group agreed that this sounded like a good plan. Steven suggested that we provide time on our agenda to hear from CDC about their interests and activities regarding public health law, and that Tony Moulton (as Director of CDC Public Health Law Program) and Gene Matthews (Legal Advisor to CDC) make this presentation. The group agreed that this would be valuable.

Deb asked the group if they would be interested in a social event, suggesting a dinner Thursday evening at the Emory Inn to which we could invite the CDC senior staff and Center Directors. The group agreed that this would be a good way to get to know some of the CDC staff and to discuss their interests in our project more informally. Steven suggested that we might want to also have a reception prior to dinner, as many of the staff will probably prefer to get home to their families rather than spend the entire evening with us, and this would give them an option of coming for a short period. The group thought this was a fine idea. Deb will work with the Emory Inn to make the arrangements, and Heather will work with Tony to see if they can get a head count for those from CDC who would attend the reception and the dinner.

Deb will prepare a draft agenda for the February meeting based on this discussion and get it out to the group in the next couple of days for review and comment.

#### **Review of Action Items from October meeting in Scottsdale:**

- Liz produced the summary of "lessons learned" from Wisconsin's public health law reform efforts, and sent it to Deb a few weeks ago. Deb will add these to the minutes from the Scottsdale meeting and post the revised minutes to the web site. Liz also sent a web link for Wisconsin's public health laws to Deb and James. There was a request that Deb add this link to the Collaborative's web site.

- Larry and James revised the Assessment Questions and Scope Statement based on the discussions at the Scottsdale meeting, and sent those to Deb for dissemination to the group the week after the meeting. Deb posted these two documents on the Turning Point Internet bulletin board under the Public Health Law Forum for the Collaborative's review and continued discussion. No one has posted any comments to the bulletin board yet. The group asked Deb to resend the instructions for accessing the bulletin board, and Bud offered to talk through the registration process on the phone with anyone having difficulty signing-on. Deb asked that everyone make an attempt to use the bulletin board, as it will be easier for everyone to follow and respond to the comments and questions on the bulletin board as opposed to an e-mail discussion.
- Steven has been talking to ASTHO staff about sending a letter to State Health Directors asking for information on recent legislation. Staff recommended sending the letter to the Senior Deputies, but are concerned that their contact list might not be up-to-date. James has drafted the letter and has it ready to go as soon as the contact list is finalized.
- Additional Members for Core Collaborative:
  - Deb explained that Larry had suggested waiting until the new Chair of the Health Promotion and Disease Prevention Board/Institute of Medicine is appointed, and then inviting that person to serve as the representative of the IOM on our Collaborative. James offered to contact us as soon as that appointment is made.
  - Bud was successful in his request to the National Association of Local Boards of Health for their participation as a partner in the Collaborative. Vaughn Upshaw, President of NALBOH, is our newest member, and was on the teleconference with us this morning.
  - Liz checked with Peggy on her contact with the National Congress of American Indians, but Peggy hadn't had any luck. Deb will write a formal letter of invitation to NCAI requesting their participation as a partner in the Collaborative.
  - Doug worked with NACCHO to identify a representative of the National Association of Counties to participate on the Collaborative. Moses Carey has volunteered to participate in this capacity, but asked Deb to work with NaCo to confirm. Deb will be following-up.
  - Larry sent a supply of reprints of the JAMA 3-part series on public health law to Deb for inclusion in the orientation packets for new Collaborative members. Deb will complete these packets once the revised versions of the Collaborative Charter and Workplan are printed.
- Technical Advisors for Expanded Collaborative:
  - Deb reported that Larry had contacted Kristine Gebbie and Ronald Bayer regarding their interest and availability in serving as expert technical advisors in the fields of Public Health Nursing and Health Ethics (respectively), and that they both had agreed to serve in those roles. We're hoping that they will be able to join us in Atlanta in February.
  - Deb requested that Tony and Larry work together to contact Richard Hoffman to see if he would be interested and available to participate as a technical advisor to the Collaborative on epidemiology, and then Gus Birkhead if Dr. Hoffman is not available. Denise mentioned that Dr. Hoffman (Medical Director for Colorado's state health department) would be an excellent advisor.

- Deb requested that Tony and Larry work together to contact Tom Burke to see if he would be interested and available to participate as a technical advisor to the Collaborative on environmental health, and then Dick Jackson if Dr. Burke is not available.
- Deb requested that Tony contact Jim Pearson to see if he would be interested and available to participate as a technical advisor to the Collaborative on public health laboratory science and administration.
- Deb asked for the Collaborative members help to identify potential technical advisors with expertise in Health Promotion/Health Education, and in Social Determinants of Health.
- Next Meetings:
  - Deb reported that she has made arrangements with the Emory Inn for a block of sleeping rooms for our February meeting. She will send an e-mail out to everyone soon with information for making reservations there. She will also send an e-mail with instructions for those members requiring financial assistance in order to travel to the meeting.
  - The Spring 2001 meeting will be held in Charleston, SC, on May 2-3 in conjunction with the next Turning Point Conference (May 3-4). Deb has made arrangements with the Mills House Hotel in Charleston (the location of the Turning Point Conference) for meeting space and to reserve a block of sleeping rooms. She'll get more information out to the group in a couple of months.
- Budget Issues:
  - Deb mentioned that the Joint Collaborative Budget had been approved, and that she's assuming that each of the individual state budgets had been approved. She asked that anyone with questions or problems contact her.
- Revisions to Collaborative Documents:
  - Deb has revised the Collaborative Charter, Workplan, and Web Site to remove any possible "red flags" for appearance of lobbying, and to add roles and responsibilities for technical advisors and additional guiding principles. She will post these to the web site in the next couple of weeks.

**Next Teleconference:** The group agreed that we don't need to have another teleconference prior to our face-to-face meeting scheduled for February. Any work that needs to be accomplished prior to that meeting will be conducted via e-mail and the bulletin board.

**The teleconference adjourned at 11:00 a.m. AST.**